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HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



HOSPITALS

CONSUMPTION INQUIRY BEGINS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—At the request of the State Board of Charity the medical societies in Massachusetts are now giving special attention to the needs of the community for larger facilities to take care of consumptives. The following communication has been sent to them:

“The General Court, at its session of 1902, directed the State Board of Charity to make an investigation and report on the following matter:

“‘Is it necessary or expedient for the Commonwealth to make additional provision for the care and treatment of consumptives? If so, should such provision be made by establishing one large new sanatorium, or by establishing several smaller institutions; and, if several, should these be located in different parts of the Commonwealth, so as to provide for patients at sanatoriums comparatively near their places of residence?’

“The board, desirous of obtaining the opinion of medical men on the subject and of reaching the largest possible number, has voted to send this circular to medical societies throughout the State. Will you and your associates consider the matter at your earliest convenience, as it is important that all replies should be received before the fifteenth day of October next?

“Additional copies of the circular will be furnished on application. Address John D. Wells, clerk of the State Board of Charity, State House, Boston.”

In a short while the societies will begin to hold regular meetings, and it is expected that through them the question of care and treatment for consumptives in this State will receive more serious consideration than ever before. Replies from the societies may be followed by public hearings by the State Board of Charity, which is composed of Leontine Lincoln, Henrietta G. Codman, Charles F. Donnelly, Edward Hitchcock, Laban Pratt, Henry S. Nourse, James M. Pullman, Frances G. Curtis, and George W. Johnson. This board will make its report to the Legislature in January.

About a year ago the City Council of Boston authorized a loan of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the establishment of a consumptives' hospital for the people of this city, but no agreement was reached as to how that money should be expended or how the proposed hospital should be managed, so that the whole matter was allowed to drop. The money is still available, but so far as known nothing is being done to apply it. Last year eleven hundred and forty-nine new cases of consumption were reported to the Boston Board of Health. Thus far this year six hundred and sixty-one cases have been found, which is a decrease from the number for the corresponding period a year ago. But the city has no hospital to which to remove this class of patients, many of whom really need better care than can be given to them in their own homes. The homes are disinfected when a patient is removed.

THE contract for erecting and completing four new buildings and connecting corridors at Austin Farm has been awarded by the trustees of the Boston Insane Hospital to Goodwin & Weston, the lowest bidders, at one hundred and ninety-eight thousand eight hundred dollars. Red brick is to be used in the construction of the buildings.

TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

THE Bridgeport Hospital graduated a class of twelve nurses on the evening of June 3, and the occasion was one of exceptional interest. The exercises took place in the South Congregational Church, the interior of which was beautifully decorated with potted plants, the national colors, and the emblem of the Red Cross. The members of the class, led by Mrs. Rogers, the directress of the schools, marched to their places to the music of the organ. The opening address was made by the Hon. Edward W. Marsh, president of the Hospital Board. Rev. W. H. Kidd made the address to the graduates, Dr. N. E. Wordin presented the diplomas, Mrs. Rogers gave the class pin, and Mrs. George B. Crowell presented the class medal to Miss Margaret Kewins, the nurse having the highest standing in the graduating class. Dr. Crowell then read a paper telling why the medal was given. Mrs. Rogers was presented with a beautiful bouquet of carnations, and Mr. Marsh paid a high tribute to her efficiency in the management of the school. The ushers were Drs. Wakefield, Nason, Smith, Stevens, Warner, and Driscoll. There was a large attendance of local physicians, ladies of the board, and friends of the nurses.

MISS L. S. SMART has accepted the position of superintendent of the Provident Hospital of Chicago. This is a hospital for colored patients, with a Training-School for colored nurses, and is under a Board of Management composed of both colored and white men. This board has shown a very liberal spirit in requesting Miss Smart to attend the meeting of hospital superintendents to be held in Philadelphia in October, her salary to commence on the day she leaves her home, and the expenses of the trip to be met by the board. We wish more of the managers of hospitals would show their appreciation of the value of such conventions in an equally practical manner. Usually a superintendent, if allowed leave of absence, pays her own expenses, the hospital reaping the direct benefit of the knowledge gained in this way.

THE eighth annual commencement exercises of the Toledo Hospital Training-School for Nurses were held at the First Congregational Church on the evening of June 27. The address of the evening was delivered by Dr. A. F. McVety. A very fine musical programme was rendered. Mrs. S. C. Schenck then presented the following young ladies with their diplomas: Miss Medora Cotton, Miss Rachel Richardson, Mrs. C. Blinn, Miss Florence Williams, Miss Dean Fulton, Miss Margaret McMahon, Miss Margaret McKenzie, Miss Gertrude Constant, Miss Ada Bryant, Miss Christine Williams, Miss Daisy Doller, and Miss Loretta Gregory. After the exercises the graduates were tendered a reception in the church parlors by the ladies of the Board of Management.

MISS M. E. BARR, who for many years has been superintendent of the Elliot Hospital, Manchester, N. H., has severed her connection to take a similar position at the Lawrence General Hospital, Lawrence, Mass. Miss Barr is the only superintendent the Elliot Hospital has ever known. It was she who opened it to the public, and it is largely through her good management that it has grown to its present size, and the good name it has always borne is largely due to her faithful, conscientious work.

MISS LAZIER, graduate of the Boston City Hospital, has been appointed chief nurse at the annex (consumption) of the Hartford Hospital, Hartford, Conn. The annex, which is new and accommodates some sixty more patients, is sit-

uated about three miles from Hartford on a beautifully located farm secured by the hospital.

MISS ANNIE M. SHIELS, directress of the Preparatory School for Nurses of Hazleton, Pa., has resigned, and has been appointed directress of the Methodist Episcopal Hospital Training-School of Philadelphia. Miss Shiels is a graduate of the Presbyterian Hospital Training-School of Philadelphia.

THE New Haven Hospital Training-School is building an addition to the Nurses' Home. The addition, in which will be situated the suite for the superintendent of the Training-School, will accommodate about twenty nurses. It is to be completed some time during the coming winter.

MISS IDA A. NUTTER takes charge of the hospital at Laconia, N. H., October 1. Miss Nutter is a Boston City Hospital graduate, and has held several subordinate hospital positions, giving the kind of experience so necessary for success in executive work.

THREE graduates of the Toronto General Hospital School have gone to take up hospital work in the Yukon. Miss C. Smithe will take charge of the Good Samaritan Hospital at Dawson, and Miss Ida Anderson, with Miss A. Gould, will be her assistants.

MISS CHARLOTTE M. PERRY, Class of 1892 of the Boston and Massachusetts General Hospital Training-School, has been appointed superintendent of the hospital at Clinton, Mass., and Miss Louise Parker, 1902, is with her as head-nurse.

MISS L. A. CHAMBERS has resigned as superintendent of the Training-School of the Homœopathic Hospital of Cleveland, O., and has accepted the superintendency of the Oil City Hospital, Pa.

THE Nurses' Home at the Taunton Insane Hospital, Taunton, Mass., is nearly ready for occupancy. It is a very pretty and comfortable home, and the nurses will much enjoy its comforts.

MISS HELEN BEVER, who has had charge of the operating-room at the Homœopathic Hospital, Cleveland, has resigned, and will take a long and indefinite rest.

